

International Intelligence

Warburg fights nuclear fuel for India

A major showdown between Congress and the administration is shaping up over the issue of shipping nuclear fuel to India. At this time, the House is expected to vote against the Carter administration's decision to ship the fuel, made last month. To block the Carter decision however, both Houses of Congress must vote against the administration. Attention is now focusing on the Senate, where the fight is expected to be intense.

The fight against the Carter policy in the Senate is being led by two Democrats, Sen. John Glenn of Ohio and Sen. Alan Cranston of California. Glenn is an original sponsor of the so-called Percy-Glenn bill, which placed severe restrictions on the shipment of nuclear technology and fuel by the United States overseas. Cranston is well-known for his views against nuclear energy.

Sources in Washington familiar with the issue of nuclear fuel shipment to India have pointed out that the real day-to-day organizer on the Hill against the fuel shipment is a leading Cranston aide, Jerry Warburg. This raises the eyebrows of many an informed person. Warburg is a scion of the infamous Warburg family, which came to prominence in this country via investment banking on Wall Street. He is known to be a rabid environmentalist firmly opposed to the use of nuclear energy, a fact which casts doubts on the Glenn-Cranston argument that their opposition to the shipment of the nuclear fuel stems purely from the danger that the fuel might lead to "proliferation" of nuclear weapons. Warburg is also known to be closely coordinating the antifuel shipment campaign with the army of environmentalists deployed on Capitol Hill. The army includes troops from the National Resources Defense Council, Friends of the Earth, the Audubon Society and others. These organizations all have close ties to the Institute for Policy Studies, a Washington-based terrorist-sympathizing organization

which was founded, in part, by Warburg's relative, ultraliberal James Warburg.

Congress has until the end of September to block the administration's decision to ship the fuel.

Khomeini followers destroy treasures

According to reports from Iran published in official U.S. government information bulletins, roving bands of the Ayatollah Khomeini's supporters are scouring the countryside destroying ancient monuments, tombs, temples and historic artifacts dating from as far back as 550 B.C. Under the banner of "Islamicizing" Iran, the cultists have sought out museums and repositories of ancient works while sledgehammering priceless stone buildings and archeological ruins throughout the country. The scourge is described by observers as part of a broader incitement of hardcore fundamentalists through the revival of the 1979 "revolutionary committees."

The Muslim Brotherhood, responsible for creating the Khomeini cult, is under pressure in Syria, however, where President Hafez al-Assad recently escaped assassination by the group. Assad's brother, who heads the Syrian special intelligence forces, warned this week that "We know where they (the Brotherhood) are in the Arab world and internationally. We shall hunt them down internally and externally."

France's role: independent foreign policy

French Foreign Minister Jean François-Poncet addressed the French Senate on foreign policy June 27, placing great emphasis on the emergence of Europe as a superpower.

"Europe," said François-Poncet, "asserts herself a bit more every day as an independent force acting on the international scene . . . this emergence provokes the impatience and criticism of those who get annoyed by it, but it is welcomed with hope by the immense majority of the countries who perceive the voice of Europe as a voice of peace, of progress, and generosity."

François-Poncet developed the necessary independent role of France in world affairs at great length, emphasizing such things as the Venice EEC resolution on the Middle East "which was inspired by France," or the Giscard-Brezhnev Warsaw summit which everyone recognized was very important. "The policy of France is an independent policy," said François-Poncet. "This implies that it intends to remain the master of its own language, initiatives and partners. To give that up would ruin the merits other states have recognized in France, it would mean to abandon the efficient, useful role which is hers. It would mean having no policy at all, or just a stop-and-go policy. Let no one expect that of France. Whatever the pressures or the solicitations might be, and wherever they might come from, she will not do so."

Ohira last hurrah turns into Chinese festival

The July 9 funeral for the late Premier of Japan, Masayoshi Ohira, is turning into a major gathering of adherents to the China card military alliance in Asia against the Soviet Union.

This week, both President Carter and Chinese Premier Hua Guofeng announced they will attend the funeral, and Peking later added that the two will hold important talks in Tokyo. The Premier of Thailand, Gen. Prem, will also attend the funeral, leading many to speculate that the recent tensions in Indochina between Vietnam and Thailand will be a topic of discussions.

As these arrangements were being announced, the White House also made public its decision to airlift \$1 million of military equipment to Thailand, to bolster that country in the face of the "danger" posed by Vietnam. The weapons being sent and the amount are not very significant, and come mainly from stockpiles of U.S. weapons judged obsolete by the military in Washington. Nevertheless, the gesture is very important politically, as it signals the commitment of the United States to a military relationship with China, around the issue of Thai-Vietnamese tensions.

The final arrangements for the Hua-Carter meeting in Tokyo are now being worked out by Assistant Secretary of State for Asia Richard Holbrooke, who arrived in Peking this week. Interestingly, most other countries have announced that lower-down officials will represent their countries at the funeral. Cabinet ministers from Britain and West Germany will attend, while France has yet to specify a representative.

Soviets plan nuplexes

The Soviet Union has a pilot project for building nuplexes, industrial complexes centered on a nuclear power source, according to the French weekly magazine *L'Express*. The Soviet plan is to install high-temperature gas-cooled reactors (HTGRs) in the heart of a complex of steel and chemicals plants, to power them. They propose to have a 1 gigawatt reactor powering either two chemicals plants (producing 1 million tons of ammonia a year) or one 2 million ton capacity steel complex. "There is a demonstration unit under construction, but Moscow refuses to say where," reports *L'Express*.

The nuplex concept has been advanced by scientists as ideal for city-building development projects, especially in the Third World, where the emphasis must be on crash, high-technology development that simultaneously pro-

motes the broader education of the population as quality labor power. In the nuplex, the installation of one or more nuclear reactors would establish the core around which entire urban centers would be developed.

The fact that HTGR technology is being employed in the Soviet project is also significant. High temperature gas-cooled reactors burn more efficiently, produce process-heat applicable to hydrogen production, and are more easily "mated" with other nuclear technologies than light water reactors. The U.S. has discontinued HTGR development

Guyana: the IMF road to "stability"?

In exchange for promises of standby credit from the International Monetary Fund (IMF), the government of Guyana has agreed to submit its economy to still another ratchet of austerity, including slashing food subsidies and the public service budget. Given the heavy predominance of service industries in the Guyanese economy, the IMF conditions can be expected to boost unemployment levels.

Prime Minister Forbes Burnham reportedly has also agreed to "deescalate his socialist rhetoric" and permit foreign companies to enter Guyana "on their own terms" in return for the IMF promises.

A *Washington Post* editorial of July 2 hails the agreement as a "triumph" for the "good guys" in the Caribbean and a loss for the Soviets and Cubans. The editorial suggests that Guyana's "substantial sacrifices" under IMF surveillance will pave the road for economic and political stability now that there has been a "clear turn to the Western way." More likely is that the escalated austerity levels will exacerbate already explosive social conditions. The recent assassination of prominent opposition leader Walter Rodney has spurred tensions in the country and has led to predictions of possible armed opposition to the unpopular Burnham regime.

Briefly

● **FRENCH PRESIDENT** Giscard stated in a nationally televised press conference June 27 that a Mideast peace settlement is urgent because of "new weapons which could be far more powerful and longer-range" than anything now deployed in the region. Following this apparent reference to new developments in Syrian-Soviet relations, Giscard made an overture to Israeli opposition forces by commenting that he would be eager to go to Israel, but only if "a new regime" was in power there.

● **THE ANGOLAN** government has charged that "vast areas" of the country are now under occupation by South Africa, which this week sent 5,000 troops a hundred miles into the country, backed by "major air support." South Africa reportedly aims to establish a permanent buffer zone in which the U.S.-sponsored UNITA guerrilla group, defeated in 1976, would be installed.

● **ISRAELI FOREIGN** Minister Yitzak Shamir told the Knesset this week that the flow of American and Soviet weapons to Arab states could "ignite a local war or even World War III." Shamir implied that Israel is preparing a preemptive strike into the Gulf oil-fields region, stressing that if the U.S. supplies advanced fighter aircraft to Saudi Arabia, the Saudis would be regarded as grave threat to Israel.

● **NARASIMHA RAO**, Indian Foreign Minister, cancelled out on his scheduled appearance at the ASEAN Foreign Ministers meeting, pleading his mother's severe illness. Delhi sources report that the Prime Minister did not want Rao to spend his time meeting Muskie and other visitors there rather than their Southeast Asian friends, particularly in light of Muskie's anti-Vietnam crusading.